

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 WELLIN 00989 01 OF 02 132212 Z

70

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 NEA-10 IO-12 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00

STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CU-04 SY-07 RSR-01 /184 W

----- 066501

R 130530 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6552

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 WELLINGTON 0989/1

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR SEATO NZ

SUBJ: SEATO

REF: STATE 056898

1. EMBASSY HAS RECD ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS BACKGROUND NOTED USED BY MINISTER OF DEFENSE FAULKNER FOR HIS RECENT TALKS WITH THAI GOVERNMENT MINISTERS ON SEATO AND FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS. THESE NOTES ON SEATO REFLECT RESULTS OF STUDY AND THOUGHTS OF NEW LABOUR GOVT REGARDING TREATY AND ORGANIZATION.

2. QUOTE THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE OF GOVT IN NEW ZEALAND. AS THE FIRST MINISTER OF THE LABOUR GOVT TO VISIT SOUTHEAST ASIA, MY TASK IS TWO- FOLD. (A) ON THE ONE HAND, IT IS TO EXPLAIN THE BASIS ON WHICH MY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 WELLIN 00989 01 OF 02 132212 Z

GOVT WILL APPROACH FOREIGN AND DEFENCE POLICY
ISSUES: (B) EQUALLY IMPORTANTLY I WANT TO SEEK THE ADVICE
OF OUR PARTNERS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA-- ON HOW WE CAN BEST
CONTINUE TO BE FRIENDS AND HELPFUL NEIGHBOURS.

4. THERE HAVE BEEN TWO BASIC CHANGES IN NEW ZEALAND' S
FOREIGN POLICY APPROACH. (A) IN THE FIRST PLACE THE
GOVT IS DETERMINED TO TAKE A MORE INDEPENDENT LINE.
WE ARE NOT GOING TO DO THINGS SIMPLY BECAUSE OUR MORE
POWERFUL FRIENDS-- THE UNITED STATES, BRITAIN OR ACES AND MILITARY
INSTALLATIONS
FROM TAIWAN. IN THE MEANTIME, IT WILL PROGRESSIVELY RE-
DUCE ITS FORCES AND MILITARY INSTALLATIONS ON TAIWAN AS
THE TENSION IN THE AREA DIMINISHES."

THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE HAS LEFT THE ULTIMATE RESOLUTION
OF THE TAIWAN PROBLEM IN CHINESE HANDS. NEVERTHELESS,
OUR TREATY COMMITMENTS WITH THE ROC, INCLUDING THE MUTUAL
DEFENSE TREATY OF 1954, REMAIN IN FORCE. THIS TREATY
RECOGNIZES THAT AN ARMED ATTACK AGAINST TAIWAN AND THE
PESCADORES WOULD OBLIGATE US TO ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH
OUR CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES TO MEET THE COMMON DANGER.
REPEATED ASSURANCES HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE ROC THAT THIS
COMMITMENT STILL STANDS. SECRETARY ROGERS, ADDRESSING
THE SEATO COUNCIL IN JUNE 1972 SAID,

'... OUR NEW RELATIONSHIPS WILL NOT BE ACHIEVED
BY SACRIFICING THE INTERESTS OF OUR FRIENDS.
WE OBTAINED EXPLICIT RECOGNITION OF THIS FACT
IN THE PRINCIPLES TO WHICH WE SUBSCRIBED WITH
CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION.

IT WOULD BE UNREALISTIC, HOWEVER, TO SAY THAT THE
YEAR 1972 WAS NOT A DIFFICULT ONE FOR THE ROC ON THE
DIPLOMATIC FRONT. THE PREVIOUS YEAR HAD ENDED WITH THE
EXCLUSION OF THE ROC FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE UNITED
NATIONS. WE CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE, HOWEVER, THE
REPRESENTATION OF THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN
IN AGENCIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND IN
OTHER INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. WE ALSO SUPPORT THE
CONTINUED PARTICIPATION OF THE ROC IN INTERNATIONAL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 071633

MEETINGS AND SEMINARS TO WHICH IT CAN CONTRIBUTE THE
KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE OF A SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPING

ECONOMY.

DURING THE PAST YEAR THE ECONOMY OF THE ISLAND HAS BEEN BOOMING. STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1972 ARE WELL OUTSIDE THE NORMAL RANGE OF EXPECTATIONS. THE OVERALL FOREIGN TRADE OF TAIWAN ROSE 48 PERCENT DURING THE YEAR, REACHING A TOTAL VALUE OF \$5.8 BILLION. TAIWAN'S REAL GNP INCREASED BY ALMOST 12 PERCENT IN 1972 OVER THE 1971 LEVEL, GIVING THE ISLAND ONE OF THE HIGHEST GNP GROWTH RATES IN THE WORLD. MEANWHILE, TAIWAN'S GOLD AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES REACHED \$1.5 BILLION AT THE END OF 1972, AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN \$500 MILLION DURING THE YEAR. FOREIGN CONFIDENCE IN TAIWAN AS AN INVESTMENT SITE CONTINUES STRONG.

OUR EXPORTS TO TAIWAN INCREASED BY ABOUT 22 PERCENT DURING 1972, AND EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICAN BUSINESS SHOULD BE EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS. DURING ITS SIXTH FOUR- YEAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (1973-76), THE ROC INTENDS TO INVEST OVER \$10 BILLION IN INDUSTRY, TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS, AND AGRICULTURE.

IN THIS PERIOD, ITS IMPORT NEEDS ARE EXPECTED TO SHIFT TOWARD CAPITAL GOODS, A FIELD IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS PARTICULARLY COMPETITIVE. WE EXPECT THAT FAVORABLE WORLD MONETARY DEVELOPMENTS MAY ALSO INCREASE THE COMPETITIVENESS OF US PRODUCTS IN THE TAIWAN MARKET.
UNQUOTE

2. PORTIONS OF PRC SECTION OF SECRETARY'S REPORT WHICH PERTINENT TO ROC AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE: AFTER MORE THAN TWO DECADES OF HOSTILITY AND ESTRANGEMENT, THE UNITED STATES IS NOW ENGAGED IN AN EFFORT TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH THE PRC. WE DO NOT EXPECT ALL PROBLEMS TO VANISH OVERNIGHT, BUT WE HAVE DEVOTED OURSELVES, WITH SOME SUCCESS, TO THE CORRECTION OF MISPERCEPTIONS ON BOTH SIDES AND TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRODUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP. OUR EFFORTS HAVE NOT SACRIFICED THE INTERESTS OF ANY THIRD COUNTRY NOR DO THEY REPRESENT A WEAKENING OF EXISTING US COMMITMENTS. RATHER THEY HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 071633

HAD AS THEIR OBJECTIVE THE CREATION OF A STABLE PEACE IN ASIA IN WHICH THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF ALL PARTIES WILL BE SERVED . . . WE ARE NOW ENGAGED IN THE LESS SPECTACULAR BUT NO LESS IMPORTANT PHASE OF BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATION OF DETENTE AND MUTUAL TRUST WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED OVER THE PAST YEAR . . . OUR GOAL REMAINS

TO MOVE NOT MERELY FROM HOSTILITY TO DETENTE BUT FROM
DETENTE TO COOPERATION. IN PURSUING THIS GOAL, WE
REMAIN AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR EXISTING RELATION-
SHIPS WITH OTHER NATIONS AND OUR COMMITMENTS TO OLD
FRIENDS. NORMAL RELATIONS WITH CHINA DO NOT REQUIRE US
TO SACRIFICE OUR TIES WITH OTHER NATIONS. ON THE CON-
TRARY, THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE CAUSE
OF WORLD PEACE REQUIRE THAT WE WORK TO STRENGTHEN OUR
RELATIONSHIPS WITH ALL COUNTRIES WHICH ARE WILLING TO
DEVELOP A PRODUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH US. . . UNQUOTE

ROGERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

ADP000
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 WELLIN 00989 02 OF 02 132243 Z

70

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 NEA-10 IO-12 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00

STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CU-04 SY-07 RSR-01 /184 W
----- 066837

R 130530 Z PR 73

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6553

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONGON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 WELLINGTON 0989

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

10. WE DO NOT, HOWEVER, SEE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE
SEATO ORGANIZATION IN THE SAME LIGHT. MY GOVT
FEELS THAT SOME OF ITS ACTIVITIES, AND THE PROMINENCE
OF THE ORGANIZATION AS A WHOLE, ARE AN UNNECESSARY
MANIFESTATION OF THE CONFRONTATION OF THE PAST. SOME

OF THESE ACTIVITIES ARE IRRELEVANT AND INDEED AN OBSTACLE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW AND MORE POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WHICH ARE NEEDED IN ASIA. FOR THAT REASON WE WELCOME THE INITIATIVE OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT IN PROPOSING A REVIEW OF THE SEATO ORGANIZATION. IT IS A TIMELY INITIATIVE.

11. IT IS A FACT OF POLITICAL LIFE THAT THERE IS VERY LITTLE SUPPORT IN NEW ZEALAND FOR WHAT SEATO SEEMS TO STAND FOR. OUR PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT CONTAINMENT, AND SUBSEQUENTLY MILITARY CONFRONTATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, HAVE FAILED TO BRING PEACE, STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 WELLIN 00989 02 OF 02 132243 Z

TO THIS AREA. MY PRIME MINISTER, REFLECTING THIS ATTITUDE, HAS ALREADY MADE IT CLEAR THAT SEATO HAS NO MEANING AS FAR AS THE DEFENCE OF NEW ZEALAND IS CONCERNED THOUGH HE RECOGNIZES ITS IMPORTANCE FOR OTHERS.

12. UNLESS THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE IN THE SEATO ORGANIZATION AND A STEADY REDUCTION IN THE LEVEL OF NEW ZEALAND'S PARTICIPATION IN ITS ACTIVITIES, THE PEOPLE OF NEW ZEALAND COULD QUESTION THE APPLICABILITY OF THE MANILA TREATY TO NEW ZEALAND. IT IS PRECISELY BECAUSE OF MY GOVT'S CONCERN FOR THE INTERESTS OF THAILAND THAT IT IS SUGGESTING MAJOR CHANGE IN ORDER TO FORESTALL THIS. I MAKE IT CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT MY GOVT HAS NO INTENTION OF PRECIPITATING THE COLLAPSE OF THE SEATO ORGANIZATION. IT AIMS TO CONVINCE ITS PARTNERS OF THE NEED TO CHANGE THE NATURE OF THE ORGANIZATION SO THAT IT CAN BE PROGRESSIVELY PHASED OUT. AS I SAID BEFORE, WE THINK THIS WOULD IN ANY CASE BE DESIRABLE GIVEN THE CHANGES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN THE PAST YEAR OR SO.

13. THE NEW ZEALAND GOVT WILL, THEREFORE, BE MAKING PROPOSALS FOR REFORM OF THE SEATO ORGANIZATION AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR REACTION TO OUR VIEWS ON THE WAYS WE SHOULD REFORM THE ORGANIZATION. IN ESSENCE OUR SUGGESTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS: (A) FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE INFORMAL, LOW-KEY AND WITHOUT PUBLICITY. THIS PROCESS HAS ALREADY STARTED WITH THE ARRANGEMENTS AGREED UPON FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

(B) MILITARY ADVISERS SHOULD MEET NOT MORE THAN ONCE A YEAR, PREFERABLY IN BANGKOK. WE WOULD NOT ENVISAGE THAT MILITARY ADVISERS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING UNLESS THEY ARE SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED.

(C) CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE SHOULD, IN THE FUTURE,

BE EXTENDED ON A BILATERAL BASIS OUTSIDE SEATO.

(D) THE PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION
SHOULD BE CURTAILED AS A MATTER OF PRIORITY.

(E) THERE SHOULD BE NO FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF SEATO PLANS
AS THE SCENARIOS FOR THEM HAVE BEEN OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 WELLIN 00989 02 OF 02 132243 Z

(F) THE EMPHASIS OF THE ORGANIZATION SHOULD NOW BE PLACED
ON THE DISSEMINATION OF EXPERT KNOWLEDGE AND ADVICE ON
COUNTERSUBVERSION AND COUNTERINSURGENCY, THE HOLDING OF
SEMINARS ON SUCH MATTERS, THE EXCHANGE OF INTELLIGENCE,
AND THE COORDINATION OF EXERCISE PROGRAMMING AND PLANNING.

(G) THE ORGANIZATION BE RESTRUCTURED TO UNDERTAKE THESE
RESPONSIBILITIES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE DEVELOPMENT OF
BILATERAL EXCHANGES IN THESE FIELDS ENABLE THE SEATO
ORGANIZATION TO BE PROGRESSIVELY PHASED OUT.

14. NEW ZEALAND INTENDS AS A PRACTICAL EXAMPLE OF
THE WAY IT BELIEVES THIS BROAD POLICY SHOULD BE
IMPLEMENTED TO CHANGE THE NATURE OF THE WORK UNDERTAKEN
BY ITS MILITARY ADVISER'S REPRESENTATIVE. WITH THE
CONSENT OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVT IT PROPOSES,
WHEN THE TOUR OF THE PRESENT NEW ZEALAND MILITARY ADVISER'S
REPRESENTATIVE FINISHES, TO REPLACE HIM BY A DEFENCE
ATTACHE TO THE AMBASSADOR. IN ADDITION TO HIS NORMAL
DUTIES IN THIS ROLE, HE WOULD CONTINUE TO LOOK AFTER
THE RESIDUAL WORK OF THE NEW ZEALAND MILITARY ADVISER'S
REPRESENTATIVE.

15. I HOPE YOU WILL ACCEPT, FROM WHAT I HAVE SAID,
THAT NEW ZEALAND WANTS TO PLAY AN ACTIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE
ROLE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. WE WANT TO WORK CLOSELY WITH
OUR FRIENDS ON A BILATERAL BASIS. WE WANT TO ESTABLISH
A REAL PARTNERSHIP IN WHICH WE CAN, TO OUR MUTUAL
ADVANTAGE, COOPERATE TOGETHER IN A WIDER VARIETY OF
FIELDS. WE WANT A NEW APPROACH WHICH WILL ENABLE US TO
DO SO. OUR AIM IS NOT TO WITHDRAW FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA
BUT RATHER TO FIND NEW WAYS OF ENABLING US TO INCREASE
OUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE REGION END QUOTE.
WOOD

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973WELLIN00989
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730443/aaaaiifu.tel
Line Count: 330
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 22 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22-Oct-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <07-Dec-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980120
Subject: SEATO
TAGS: MARR, NZ, SEATO
To: EA
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BANGKOK
CANBERRA
CINCPAC
MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

